

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 OES-06 EB-08 SP-02
L-03 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /103 W

-----251052Z 106424 /15/41

R 231240Z APR 77 CORRECTED COPY MRN

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4227

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y MRN (6875 VICE 6863)

DEPT ALSO PASS AID

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT EG

SUBJ: HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY PROPOSAL

REF: A. STATE 084878 B. STATE 090605 C. CAIRO 5380 D. CAIRO 5649
E. CAIRO 14796 (1976)

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTELS A AND B, EMBASSY NOTES CONTINUING
AMBIGUITY FROM GOE SIDE AS TO SCOPE OF WORK REQUESTED. FAHMY
REQUEST (REFTEL C) CONTAINS THE THREE ELEMENTS SUMMARIZED IN
PARA 2 REFTEL A. LETTER FROM CINC EGYPTIAN NAVY TO NAVAL
ATTACHE (REFTEL D), ON THE OTHER HAND, SIMPLY CONFIRMS THE
ADEQUACY OF THE PRELIMINARY TASK STATEMENT WICH DEPARTMENT
HOLDS AS REFTEL E. THE PRELIMINARY TASK STATEMENT DOES NOT
ENCOMPASS INSTALLATION OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS OR THE CONDUCT
OF CLEARING/DREDGING OPERATIONS. THERE IS AN OBVIOUS ORDER
OF MAGNITUDE DIFFERENCE IN THE TWO STATEMENTS AND GOE IS
NOW ON RECORD AS HAVING REQUESTED BOTH. HOWEVER, EXCEPT FOR
NOTE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE GOE
PLANNING HAS PROGRESSED SO THAT INITIAL ASSESSMENT SURVEY
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PARAMETERS ARE NO LONGER VALID.

2. UNTIL THE TWO CONFLICTING EGYPTIAN STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN
RESOLVED IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO THE
QUESTIONS POSED IN PARA 1, REFTEL B. DISPATCH OF TECHNICAL
TEAM SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DELAYED PENDING RESOLUTION OF
CONFLICTING EGYPTIAN REQUESTS. THIS PROBLEM CAN IN OUR

OPINION BE RESOLVED MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH TEAM PRESENT
IN EGYPT FOR DISCUSSIONS THAN PRIOR TO TEAM'S ARRIVAL.
TASKING OF TEAM SHOULD INCLUDE OBTAINING ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS SUCH AS THOSE CONTAINED IN REFTEL B.

3. ANSWERS TO QUESTION REGARDING NEED TO SURVEY APPROACHES
TO CANAL IS AFFIRMATIVE. IN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS IT
WAS CLEAR THAT SURVEY REQUEST INCLUDED APPROACHES TO SUEZ
BAY SUMED TERMINUS. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF MEDITERRANEAN
SUMED TERMINUS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND COMMITMENT RESULTING FROM MEETING OF THE
PRESIDENTS EARLIER THIS MONTH EXTENDED TO HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY
BUT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY EXTEND TO CONDUCT OF CLEARING/DREDGING
OPERATIONS. STATUS OF NAVIGATION AIDS IS LESS CLEAR.
PRELIMINARY TASK STATEMENT CALLED FOR ASSESSMENT OF ADEQUACY
OF EXISTING NAVAIDS AND MAKING OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS;
IT DID NOT INCLUDE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS (THAT IS,
INSTALLATION OF NAVAIDS). SUCH WORK WOULD BE FEASIBLE, BUT EXPENSIVE
AND TIME CONSUMING. IT WOULD CERTAINLY SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE
THE COST OF THE PROJECT. CONDUCT OF CLEARING/DREDGING OPERATIONS
ON ANY SIGNIFICANT SCALE IS ANOTHER MATTER ENTIRELY. THIS WORK
COULD INVOLVE EXTREMELY HIGH COSTS AND MIGHT WELL EXCEED USG'S
REASONABLE ABILITY TO SUPPORT. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT TEAM BE
INSTRUCTED NOT TO DISCUSS CONDUCT OF CLEARING/DREDGING
OPERATIONS, BUT INSTEAD CONCENTRATE ON BASIC HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY.
IF AID/W PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUBSTANTIAL COST INCREASE,
TEAM COULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS NAVAID QUESTION. BUT ANY
REQUESTS FOR CLEARING/DREDGING WORK SHOULD BE ANSWERED WITH THE
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STATEMENT THAT THIS WORK IS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF ASSISTANCE
WHICH USG IS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE.

5. EMBASSY WILL APPROACH MINISTRY OF ECONOMY TO DETERMINE
WHETHER ANY DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC ECONOMIC BENEFITS EXISTS.
RECOMMEND HOWEVER THAT TEAM COME PREPARED TO ADDRESS THAT
QUESTION WITH GOE AUTHORITIES, AND THAT ANY PRELIMINARY WORK
ON SUBJECT WHICH CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN WASHINGTON BE INITIATED
NOW.

6. CONCUR IN NEED FOR EARLY DISPATCH OF TECHNICAL TEAM, IT
IS IN THE OBVIOUS INTEREST OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO COMPLETE
AS MUCH WORK AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE ONSET OF WINTER WEATHER,
WHICH IS TO BE ANTICIPATED IN NOVEMBER.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: EWWT, EG
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